

APPENDIX B
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(iii) AND (c)(ii)

CLAIMS:

21. (AMENDED) An endoscope capable of being autoclaved according to claim 6, wherein one of [said] the airtight partition members of [said] the hermetically sealed unit is a first optical member, [said] the first optical member engages with a frame member and has [an optical path surface] a distal surface, and wherein when a second optical member is [united with said optical path surface] fixed to only the distal surface of [said] the first optical member, [said] the second optical member is not engaged with [said] the frame member.

23. (AMENDED) An endoscope capable of being autoclaved, comprising:
an outer casing of the endoscope made at least partially of a polymeric material and having an interior; and
a component housed in the interior of the outer casing and constituted as a hermetically sealed unit composed of a plurality of airtight partition members which are hermetically joined to one another;
wherein the outer casing is formed to provide a first sealing level to hinder liquid from invading into the interior thereof while permitting high-pressure, high-temperature steam given off during autoclaving to invade into the interior thereof; and
the component is formed to provide a second sealing level higher than the first sealing level of the outer casing, to hinder the high-pressure, high-temperature steam penetrating through the outer casing during autoclaving from invading into the interior.

[a first section and a second section, each of said first and second sections having an internal space and an outer casing surrounding said internal space; and

said internal spaces of said first and second sections being in gaseous communication with one another and sealed from an ambient space surrounding said outer casing at a first sealing level,



wherein one or more components are housed in said internal space of said first section and at least one of said components is a hermetically sealed unit formed at a second sealing level higher than said first sealing level and capable of maintaining its second sealing level in the presence of pressures developing during autoclaving.]

